August 2018 Statewide Conservation Data

August Urban Water Production Summary

August 2018 marks the 51st month since the State Water Resources Control Board began collecting water production information from urban water suppliers, following the historic July 2014 board action to adopt a drought emergency water conservation regulation. The emergency water conservation regulation expired in November 2017, and the monthly reporting requirement for urban water production, and prohibitions of wasteful water uses are no longer in effect. This fact sheet summarizes the current water production results; data are posted here.

Statewide water savings reached 12.6 percent in August 2018 (83,494 acre feet, or 27.2 billion gallons) compared to August 2013 potable water production for the 355 suppliers reporting. The graph below shows the reported statewide urban potable water production in 2018 (solid dark blue line), compared to last year (white line), and to 2013 (shaded area). Dashed line shows the estimated urban water production in 2018, after accounting for the missing reports (based on monthly production in 2017 for the non-reporters in 2018). For the 355 suppliers reporting for August 2018 (representing approximately 92.5 percent of population served by the 409 urban water suppliers), the potable water production was 188.2 billion gallons.
Breakdown of Water Savings

The chart below shows the number of suppliers achieving various levels of water savings in August 2018 compared to the August 2013 baseline water production. One quarter of suppliers, serving more than 13.7 million people, reported savings up to 10 percent. Forty-one percent of suppliers reported water savings between 10 and 20 percent; these suppliers serve 15 million people. Another sixteen percent of suppliers, serving 4.6 million Californians, reported water savings above 20 percent.

Out of 409 urban water suppliers, 355 (87 percent) submitted the August 2018 report. The 54 suppliers that did not report serve approximately 2.7 million people (7.5% of the population served by the 409 urban water suppliers). Monthly reporting of urban water production is voluntary, as the requirement ended with the expiration of the drought emergency conservation regulation in November 2017.

Water Savings by Hydrologic Region

August 2018 water savings by hydrologic region ranged from 5 percent to 18.2 percent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hydrologic Region</th>
<th>Aug 14</th>
<th>Aug 15</th>
<th>Aug 16</th>
<th>Aug 17</th>
<th>Aug 18</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Coast</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>28.1%</td>
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<td>21.0%</td>
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<td>24.7%</td>
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<td>16.3%</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>San Francisco Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Joaquin River</td>
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<tr>
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<td>20.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tulare Lake</td>
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<td>18.5%</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Statewide Savings</strong></td>
<td><strong>12.0%</strong></td>
<td><strong>27.0%</strong></td>
<td><strong>17.5%</strong></td>
<td><strong>14.6%</strong></td>
<td><strong>12.6%</strong></td>
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</table>
Residential Daily use by Hydrologic Region

The average statewide August 2018 total (indoor and outdoor) residential gallons per capita per day (R-GPCD) was 116. Average hydrologic region R-GPCDs for August 2018 range from 79 to 217, with use down in five hydrologic regions compared to the same month in 2017.

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* August 2013 R-GPCD is an estimate based on the median of values reported for the month of August (percent residential use, and total population served were not collected for 2013).

Background

Since June 2014, the State Water Board has been tracking water conservation for each of the state’s larger urban water suppliers (those with more than 3,000 connections) on a monthly basis. Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.’s April 2017 executive order directed the State Water Board to lift the specific conservation provisions of its emergency urban water conservation regulation. The temporary requirements for monthly water use reporting and prohibitions against wasteful water use practices remained in effect until November 25, 2017, when the emergency regulation expired.

To learn about all the actions the state has taken to manage our water system and cope with the impacts of the drought, visit Drought.CA.Gov. Every Californian should take steps to conserve water. Find out how at SaveOurWater.com. While saving water, it is important to properly water trees. Find out how at www.saveourwater.com/trees. In addition to many effective local programs, state-funded turf removal rebates are also available. Information and rebate applications can be found at: www.saveourwaterrebates.com.

(This fact sheet was last updated October 2, 2018)